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Another Possibility Of The War

The Euopean war appears just now to be proving a genuine Frankenstein to its creators. Though at the outset, and for months after its outbreak, one might truly imagine he saw the international capitalists and money kings rubbing their bloody hands with satisfaction over visions of enormous returns in interest on war debts, and over other securities evincing their unbridled power and their expanding grasp of industry and so ciety—the whole situation now suggests another possible out-come. The war has already doubled the bonded indebtedness of come. The war nas arready counted the bonder instructions of the European nations. According to Theodore H. Price, a financial expert, writing in the Outlook, the combined debt prior to the war was \$22,300,000,000, and "all students of the subject agree that it will be about doubled by July 31." The interject agree that it will be about doubled by July 31." The inter-est on this increased debt would aggregate the considerable sum of nearly two billion dollars each year, which according to con-tract, must be paid to a small group of international bankers, by the respective European governments. This interest must, of course, come through direct and indirect taxation, from the property holders in these accountries. An it must be actuated. of course, come through direct and indirect taxation, from the property holders in these countries. And it must be extracted from the ruins of industry and commerce already created by the great war. How it can be done is puzzling financial experts like Price; and already the hint of possible repudiation is in the air. "Repudiation"—the "crime of all national crimes"—is now suggested as a necessity for all the beligerent nations. Neither principal nor the interest on these enormous debts can or and be paid, according to some writers.

Evidently, the promotors or instigators of this conflict ex pected a short war—just long enough to put the nations firmly in the grip of the big coalition of pirates, and enable the latter to extract the last possible ounce of plunder from their vic-But German resistance and aggression have upset these tims. But German resistance and aggression have upset these plans. Cut off from the international money bag, Germany has nevertheless raised three huge war loans through popular subscription, thus keeping the selet "in the family" so to speak, and is still holding all her assailants at bay, with no prospects off an early termination of the gigantic struggle. This "sabotage" against the international financiers must have turned their terms, switch of assistance in the assault of reasons with derays. age against the international manners must have turied their former smile of satisfaction to a scowl of rage and despair. Having wantonly sacrificed several million lives, devastated thou-sands of miles of territory, and upset the civilization of the planet generally, in order to get their pound of flesh, these gentlemen, like their prototye, Rodin, in "The Wandering Jew." may find their long-awaited millions turning to ashes at the moment of expected triumph. That would not be the least, de-voutly-to-be-wished-for retribution that might follow this monstrous maelstrom of war.

That the capitalists are really alarmed over the duration and unexpected consequences of the war, seems evident in many quarters. The writer attended several sessions of the "Peace Congress" held last week in Cleveland, where this note of un-Congress" held last week in Cleveland, where this note of un-easiness was much in evidence. The speakers advocated most strenuously a "World Court" wherein international disputes could be adjudicated and the danger of war be reduced to a minimum. The speakers at this congress were all capitalists or representatives of capitalist ideas; and there was hardly a tinge of timpolem in any of the properties when the Court is forced. representatives of capitalist ideas; and there was narraly a tinge of jingoism in any of the speeches we heard. One went so far as to suggest that the American flag would not be truly worthy of the appellation "Old Glory" until it was surrounded by the various national emblems of Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia, and other countries. Another, the notorious John Wes-Russia, and other countries. Another, the holorous Jonin. Ves-ley Hill, uttered the same sentiment, accompanying it, how-ever, with his usual dig at the "red flag of revolution." In these references to a composite flag, we see clearly the note of inter-national capitalism, which now realizes that the war of its own making has gone beyond its control; and would checkmate it if possible and safeguard the future against a repetition of a similar holocaust. Capitalism quakes before the Frankenstein of its own creation.

But there were other sentiments at this "peace Congress worthy of noting. Talking on "The Limitations of a World Court," one of these mouthpieces of the ruling class remarked such a court could not guarantee the abolition of war. He that such a court could not guarantee the abolition of war. He said there were undoubtedly certain things which no nation would submit to such a body. For instance, said he, suppose Japan were to bargain with Mexico for the purchase of Lower. California, would the United States consent to such a bargain or even to have the matter referred to the W. C. for adjustor even to have the matter reterred to the w. C. for adjust-ment? His answer was in the negative, and coupled, with other similar illustrations regarding European countries, showed that capitalists are unable to figure out a scheme for the complete abolition of war. That task remains, as we have hitherto con-tended, for the working class only.

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A VISIT TO JOE HILL

(Continued From Page 1)

of which the committee has. A stupid, sentimental story was published broadcast that "a woman of unlimited means" is backing the case. There is no truth in this; it is meraly the fabrication of a romantic reporter. But I was surprised to know that members throughout the country believe it and are under the delugion that the committee has plenty of money. \$300 IS NEED-ED QUICKLY and fellow workers should realize that even if the appeal is granted, it will not mean necessarily his release, but a new trial, the expense of which will have to be met.

Joe Hill didn't ask the I. W. to fight for him; he was in jail months before he'd consent to the local's taking up his case. So this appeal is not from him, but in the spirit:

"He's in their dungeon, dark and grim;

As a matter of fact, he hasn't been told how low the funds actually are, and it's up to us to make it unnecessary.

Hold meetings again, fellow workers. Put it up to the workers. Letters and telegrams to Gov. Spry, will help, but money is the prime necessity. Ice will like he hill it for an he flames of discon-

Hold meetings again the first state of the s

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